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Part II – Transmission Corridors

Opportunities and Challenges

Don Haines
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Overview



- SDG&E recognizes the importance of transmission line planning:
 - CEC's current effort will help foster such planning on a local scale
 - SDG&E supports SB 1059 (Escutia/Morrow) to help establish transmission corridors
- Our experience has shown that there seems to be a real lack of information regarding energy infrastructure requirements and land use implications by both agencies and the public
- To be effective, transmission planning must:
 - Be completed on a larger regional and statewide scale
 - Include an educational element to quell local conflicting interests and misinformation

A Local Approach



- Two years ago, SDG&E requested meetings with and made presentations to local agencies that were updating their General Plans
 - SANDAG, County of San Diego and 3 cities
- Our proposed "Energy as a Land Use" presentation was well received on a broad-based, theoretical level
- The major principles of the presentation were then converted by SDG&E to suggested General Plan Land Use Policies for Energy Facilities (see handout)
- The policies covered transmission lines, electric substations and associated land use compatibility issues

What was the Outcome



- What was the outcome? "Thank you for your comments"
- Nothing SDG&E provided to the agencies was ever included in any general plan update or associated environmental document
- What does this say?
 - Accommodating energy infrastructure in a modern development setting takes unprecedented cooperation among competing interests

Lessons Learned



- Planning for infrastructure is extremely contentious
 - Land is either already developed or already protected from further development
 - Utilities such as water, sewer, electric, pipelines, and telephone are generally left out of the planning process
- Local and State agencies NOT required to consider energy in their comprehensive planning document
 - No analysis of existing infrastructure or future needs
- Current planning leaves no room for energy infrastructure
 - “Out of sight, out of mind” by both agencies and the public
- Energy infrastructure planning must happen at a statewide or national level
 - Requires full cooperation from the local agencies and public

Moving Forward



- CEC's proposed transmission planning approach can be a critical key element in raising energy infrastructure, particularly vital electric transmission, to the forefront of agency's and the public's consciousness to maximize local cooperation when corridors are ultimately proposed
- To achieve local cooperation, the transmission planning process needs to also educate the public and agencies about these critical factors:
 - Overhead vs. underground vs. cost
 - The reality of renewables
 - In moving electricity over long distances, size matters
 - The importance of energy generation diversity

Summary



- SDG&E fully supports the transmission planning process of the state and provides our local example only as a guide to potential opportunities and challenges
- Transmission lines need to be recognized as critically important by everyone to achieve more cooperation, just as people see freeways and water lines as critically important
- The transmission planning process therefore must not only plan, it must educate, to be successful

More Information



- **Get more information about the need for a new 500kV transmission line and efforts to improve the region's energy infrastructure.**

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